

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /110 W

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P R 140052Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8448

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3224

COLOMBO FOR KATZEN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, SF, WA, UNSC

SUBJECT: UNSC DEBATE ON NAMIBIA

1. USUN MISOFF MET WITH RICHARDSON OF UK AND DUQUE OF FRANCE AT FRENCH MISSION ON AUGUST 12 TO EXCHANGE THOUGHTS ON THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION. ALL WERE SPEAKING WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS BUT EACH MISSION BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO BEGIN WORKING-LEVEL CONTACTS IN NEW YORK.

2. RICHARDSON SEES THREE POSSIBLE SCENARIOS EMERGING FROM PRETORIA AND WINDHOEK: FIRST (AND LEAST DESIREABLE), NO PROMISE OF ELECTIONS; THIS WOULD INEVITABLY GIVE RISE TO AN AFRICAN DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD INCLUDE  
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CHAPTER VII LANGUAGE AND LEAD TO AN UNSAVORY DEBATE AND

SEVERAL CERTAIN VETOES. SECOND, THE PROMISE OF ELECTIONS IN NAMIBIA UNDER UNDEFINED SUPERVISION; POSSIBLY SOMETHING POSITIVE COULD BE SALVAGED FROM THIS, BUT IT IS UNLIKELY. THIRD, AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT; THIS WOULD BRING A DEBATE WHICH COULD POSSIBLY BE DIVERTED INTO A TIME-CONSUMING STUDY OF THE TECHNICALITIES OF SELECTING THE SUPERVISORS, ETC.; THUS GIVING MORE TIME TO THOSE WHO ARE TRYING TO WORK OUT PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE.

3. RICHARDSON BELIEVES THAT SWAPO IS STILL WILLING TO TALK, AND CITED THEIR PREVIOUS AFFIRMATIONS THAT THEY WOULD TAKE PART IN ELECTIONS UNDER UN SUPERVISION. UN SUPERVISION WOULD ALSO BE NECESSARY FOR SUCH COUNTRIES AS ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA TO RECOGNIZE THE LEGITIMACY OF THE ELECTIONS; BUT THIS, IN TURN, WOULD HAVE TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE SAG.

4. DUQUE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED THAT THE RESOLUTION NOT CONTAIN LANGUAGE CRITICAL OF FRENCH NUCLEAR REACTOR AND MILITARY ARMS SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA, AND HE BELIEVES THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT HAVE ANY PROBLEM VETOING A HEAVILY CONDEMNATORY RESOLUTION CONTAINING CHAPTER VII LANGUAGE. RICHARDSON WOULD LIKE THE UK, US, AND FRANCE TO BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DRAFT RESOLUTION RATHER THAN MERELY REACTING TO WHATEVER THE AFRICAN MEMBERS PUT TOGETHER. HE ASKED TO GET PARIS AND WASHINGTON REACTIONS TO A POSSIBLE TRIPARTITE SUGGESTION TO THE SAG THAT IT WITHDREW SAG MILITARY FORCES FROM NAMIBIA. ALL AGREED TO APPROACH AFRICANS TO HEAR THEIR REACTIONS AS SOON AS SAG AND WINDHOEK PACKAGES EMERGE, AND TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH AS THE SITUATION DEVELOPS.

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